

"op. cit." means "cited above which see" and is used only in place of a repetition of the full title previously written on the page.

Now, sometimes I will have "op. cit." on the copy sheet but your typing will come so that you will need to write the full title instead of "op. cit." because it is the first footnote on the page or the first time that title is referred to on the page. Do not use "op. cit." when a different title intervenes between the title and the second reference to it. For example, this would be wrong

1. The Courtier, p 19
2. Chesterfield's Letters to His Son, ---
3. op. cit., p 20 (referring to The Courtier).

because the reader would become confused and would naturally think op. cit. meant Chesterfield's Letters etc instead of The Courtier. In the above example you would need to write